

REMARKS

For the Examiner's convenience and reference, Applicant's remarks are presented in substantially the same order in which the corresponding issues were raised in the Office Action. Please note that the following remarks are not intended to be an exhaustive enumeration of the distinctions between any cited references and the claimed invention. Rather, the distinctions identified and discussed below are presented solely by way of example to illustrate some of the differences between the claimed invention and the cited references. In addition, Applicant requests that the Examiner carefully review any references discussed below to ensure that Applicant's understanding and discussion of the references, if any, is consistent with the Examiner's understanding.

STATUS OF THE SPECIFICATION

Applicant amends certain paragraphs within the specification to more clearly reference the elements shown in the drawings and to more clearly describe embodiments of the claimed invention. These amendments are readily apparent in the rewritten paragraphs shown above. No new matter has been added.

STATUS OF THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-28 were examined and remain pending. Claims 1-4, 8, 9, 14-19, and 23-25 stand rejected. Claims 5-7, 10-12, 20-22, and 26-28 stand objected to, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 13 stands allowed. No claims have been canceled. Claims 1-8, 10-11, 13-14, 17, 19-24, and 26-27 are currently amended. No other claims are amended. No new claims have been added. No new matter has been added.

The amendments included herein are not related to the purported anticipatory or prior art nature of the reference cited in the Office Action. Rather, Applicant offers these amendments in an effort to expedite the prosecution of the present application. In particular, claim 1 is amended to more clearly recite linework (LW) data and linework control (LWC) data, as well as a shared transmission path. Claims 2 is amended to more clearly refer to one of a plurality of FIFO

buffers. Claim 3 is amended to clarify antecedent basis of one or more recited elements. Claim 4 is amended to more clearly recite transmitting the data. Claim 4 is also amended to depend from claim 3, rather than claim 1, to clarify antecedent basis of one or more recited elements.

Claim 5 is amended to more clearly recite a linework (LW) transmission path. Claim 6 is amended to more clearly recite a linework control (LWC) transmission path. Claim 7 is amended to more clearly recite a continuous tone (CT) transmission path. Claim 8 is amended to more clearly recite the transmitted data. Claim 10 is amended to correct spelling and to more clearly recite the linework (LW) data. Claim 11 is amended to correct spelling and to more clearly recite the linework control (LWC) data.

Claim 13 is amended to more clearly recite linework (LW) data and linework control (LWC) data, as well as the plurality of shared transmission paths. Claim 13 is also amended to clarify antecedent basis of one or more recited elements. Claim 14 is amended to more clearly recite linework (LW) data and linework control (LWC) data, as well as the shared transmission bus. Claim 14 is also amended to clarify antecedent basis of one or more recited elements. Claim 17, 19, and 20 are amended to clarify antecedent basis of one or more recited elements. Claim 21 is amended to more clearly recite placement of the linework (LW) data. Claim 22 is amended to more clearly recite placement of the linework control (LWC) data. Claim 23 is amended to correct spelling. Claims 24, 26, and 27 are amended to clarify antecedent basis of one or more recited elements.

RESPONSE TO CLAIM REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)

Claims 14, 16-19, and 23 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,538,762 to Terashima et al. (hereinafter “Terashima”). Applicant respectfully submits that these claims are patentable over the cited reference because the cited references do not teach or suggest each and every element of these claims. Accordingly, Applicant traverses this rejection as outlined below.

With regard to the rejection of independent claim 14, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 14 is patentable over the cited reference because Terashima fails to teach transmission of

linework data and linework control data over a shared transmission bus. Claim 14, as amended, states:

A system for transmitting a plurality of data types over a plurality of transmission paths comprising:
a memory module configured to store a plurality of data types, including linework (LW) data and linework control (LWC) data;
a handshaking control module configured to control **transmission of the linework (LW) data and the linework control (LWC) data over a shared transmission bus**; and
a data processing module configured to receive and process the transmitted data in accordance with the data type of the transmitted data.

(emphasis added).

A claim is anticipated only if the prior art reference teaches every element of the claim. M.P.E.P. § 2131. Terashima does not teach transmission of linework data and linework control data over a shared transmission bus, as recited in claim 14. In fact, Terashima does not reference linework data or linework control data. Furthermore, Terashima does not reference a shared transmission bus.

Therefore, for the reasons stated above, Terashima fails to teach all of the elements recited in claim 14. Accordingly, the Office Action fails to establish a *prima facie* case of anticipation because the cited reference fails to teach every element of amended claim 14. Given that the cited reference fails to teach all of the elements recited in claim 14, Applicant respectfully submits that independent claim 14 is patentable over the cited reference. Applicant also requests that the rejection of claim 14 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) be withdrawn.

Given that dependent claims 15-28 depend from claim 14, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 15-28 are also patentable over the cited reference. Accordingly, Applicant requests that the rejection of dependent claims 16-19, and 23 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) be withdrawn. Similarly, Applicant requests that the rejection of dependent claims 15 and 24-25 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) be withdrawn. Furthermore, Applicant requests that the objection to dependent claims 20-22 and 26-28 also be withdrawn.

RESPONSE TO CLAIM REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claim 15 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Terashima in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,412,022 to Kumpf et al. (hereinafter “Kumpf”). Claims 24 and 25 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Terashima in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,310,563 to Har et al. (hereinafter “Har”). Claims 1-4 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Terashima in view of JP. Patent No. 5,030,366A to Katsunori (hereinafter “Katsunori”) and further in view of Kumpf. Claims 8 and 9 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Terashima in view of Katsunori and further in view of Kumpf as applied to claim 1 and further in view of Har.

Applicant respectfully submits that these claims are patentable over the cited references because the cited references do not teach or suggest each and every element of these claims. Accordingly, Applicant traverses these rejections as outlined below.

With regard to the rejection of dependent claims 15 and 24-25, Applicant respectfully submits that these claims are patentable over the cited references because claims 15 and 24-25 depend from independent claim 14, which Applicant respectfully submits is patentable over the prior art, as described above. Accordingly, Applicant requests that the rejection of claims 15 and 24-25 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) be withdrawn.

With regard to the rejection of independent claim 1, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 1 is patentable over the cited references. Claim 1, as amended, states:

A method for transmitting a plurality of data types over a plurality of transmission paths, comprising:
storing data of a plurality of data types, including linework (LW) data and linework control (LWC) data
receiving a request for the stored data;
transmitting at least one of the linework (LW) data and the linework control (LWC) data over a shared transmission path; and
processing the transmitted data in accordance with the data type of the transmitted data after the transmission of the data.

(emphasis added).

A claim is obvious only if the prior art references teach or suggest every element of the claims. M.P.E.P. § 2143.03. The combination of Terashima in view of Katsunori and further in

view of Kumpf does not teach transmitting at least one of the linework data and the linework control data over a shared transmission path, as recited in claim 1. In fact, the cited combination does not reference linework data or linework control data. Furthermore, the cited combination does not teach or suggest a shared transmission path.

Therefore, for the reasons stated above, the combination of Terashima in view of Katsunori and further in view of Kumpf fails to teach or suggest all of the elements recited in claim 1. Accordingly, the Office Action fails to establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness because the cited combination of references fails to teach or suggest every element of amended claim 1. Given that the cited combination of references fails to teach or suggest all of the elements recited in claim 1, Applicant respectfully submits that independent claim 1 is patentable over the combined references. Applicant also requests that the rejection of claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) be withdrawn.

Given that dependent claims 2-12 depend from claim 11, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 2-12 are also patentable over the cited combination of references. Accordingly, Applicant requests that the rejection of dependent claims 2-4 and 8-9 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) be withdrawn. Furthermore, Applicant requests that the objection to dependent claims 5-7 and 10-12 also be withdrawn.

RESPONSE TO CLAIM OBJECTIONS

Claims 5-7, 10-12, 20-22, and 26-28 stand objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. As discussed above, Applicant respectfully submits that independent claims 1, 13, and 14 are patentable over the cited references. Accordingly, Applicant submits that claims 5-7 and 10-12 are patentable in their current form as depending from independent claim 1. Applicant also submits that claims 20-22 and 26-28 are patentable in their current form as depending from independent claim 14.

Applicant notes that the present Office Action does not provide a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter with regard to claims 5-7, 10-12, 20-22, and 26-28. Applicant notes that the comments in the current Office Action and response may have

paraphrased the language of the claims. However, it should be understood that the language of the claims themselves set out the scope of the claims.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

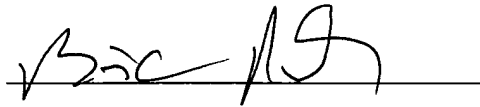
The Office Action states that claim 13 is allowable. As noted above, claim 13 is amended to more clearly recite linework (LW) data and linework control (LWC) data, as well as the plurality of shared transmission paths. Claim 13 is also amended to clarify antecedent basis of one or more recited elements. Nevertheless, Applicant respectfully submits that these amendments are clarifying in nature and do not affect the allowability of the claim.

Applicant notes that the present Office Action does not provide a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter with regard to claim 13. Applicant notes that the comments in the current Office Action and response may have paraphrased the language of the claims. However, it should be understood that the language of the claims themselves set out the scope of the claims.

CONCLUSION

As a result of the presented amendments and remarks, Applicant asserts that claims 1-28 are patentable and in condition for prompt allowance. Should additional information be required regarding the amendment or traversal of the rejections of the independent and dependent claims enumerated above, the Examiner is respectfully asked to notify Applicant of such need. If any impediments to the prompt allowance of the claims can be resolved by a telephone conversation, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'B.C. Kunzler', is written over a horizontal line.

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Date: February 28, 2005

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